New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

pulse

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Blood Washing Controls Hepatitis Virus

Dr. James L. Tullis, chairman of the department of medicine and senior investigator of the Blood Research Institute, and Dr. John Hinman, associate staff and member of the Blood Research Institute, have developed a method that reduces the possibility of hepatitis developing in patients who receive blood transfusions. Their findings were published in the October 26, 1970, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association.*

The procedure for controlling hepatitis consists of selectively isolating the various components of blood. Red blood cells are separated from the plasma, suspended in a glycerol solution and frozen. When the blood is required for a transfusion, it is thawed and the glycerol solution removed by adding wash solutions while the cells are spinning in a centrifuge. The red blood cells are then resuspended in albumin, a protein solution which is hepatitis-free and suitable for transfusion.

In a control group of 104 patients who received a total of 442 transfusions processed the same way but resuspended in plasma instead of albumin, four developed hepatitis. The doctors said that the possibility of hepatitis occurring from unprocessed transfusions varies in different parts of the country but averages about 9 per 1,000.

Of 110 patients who received a total of 623 transfusions prepared with albumin, none contracted hepatitis. This finding is of particular significance to patients who are already sick or are post-operative. If acquired, hepatitis could be extremely dangerous to the already-weakened patient.

Only a small amount of blood is processed each day because of the complex equipment presently being used and the strict quality requirements of blood use in Massachusetts. For example, blood is frequently obtained from people who sell it. These people must be carefully screened to ascertain whether or not they are drug addicts prone to hepatitis. Therefore, the source of supply is carefully selected and only a small amount of blood is used for research.

Medical authorities say that it is technically impossible to determine whether or not blood transfusions contain the hepatitis virus. New methods of Australia Antigen (A.A.) screening, a test helpful in isolating hepatitis in approximately 20% of the donors, may prove helpful. The Deaconess Department of Pathology already is conducting A.A. screening on a routine basis. Research by Doctors Tullis and Hinman should remove the virus from the remaining 80% of donor blood.

More than two decades have elapsed since the first successful attempts to freeze human blood following its exposure to glycerol. Dr. Tullis has been directly involved with these experiments since 1951 when he joined the research team of Dr. Edward Cohn at Harvard Medical School and began investigating methods of preserving red cells in the frozen state. In 1954, two years after Dr. Tullis joined the NEDH medical staff, the first frozen red cells, ever administered in the United States, were transfused by him at the Deaconess.

Later, under the support of the U. S. Navy, Dr. Tullis' research on frozen blood was transferred to Chelsea Naval Hospital. While conducting a joint study with Dr. Lewis L. Haynes, who was the commanding officer of the Naval Hospital at that time, Doctors Tullis and Haynes observed that hepatitis did not appear to be as common after frozen-blood transfusions as after routine transfusions.

The only way the answer could be proven about the less frequent occurance of hepatitis was to establish a prospective clinical study where the rate of occurrence could be carefully compared. Experimental double-blind conditions; where neither the patient nor doctor knew if treated or untreated blood was used in transfusions; had to be established.

In 1966, the U. S. Department of Navy made the research possible. Doctors Tullis and Hinman headed the research team at the Deaconess. Four years of testing have been carried out in the Blood Research Institute on the sixth floor of 110 Francis Street. All blood used in the study was sent to the Deaconess Blood Bank for subsequent transfusions.

Dr. Tullis explains that, "Now one phase of the hepatitis-virus study is finished. The next step is to see if a simplified process, using expendable plastic kits and saline wash solutions, without freezing, can have the same beneficial effect in eliminating the hepatitis virus. If so, this would greatly reduce the cost and complexity of the process."

Annual Bazaar Coming Soon

Remember to come early to Central lobby on Friday, December 4, for the Annual Christmas Bazaar. It begins at 9 a.m. and ends when the last item is sold. A variety of gift ideas and holiday goodies will be available for your selection.

The traditional event is sponsored by the Friends of the Deaconess and the members of the NEDH School of Nursing. Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., president of the Friends, and Mrs. George I. Rohrbough, member of the Friends, are serving as co-chairmen of the 1970 Christmas Bazaar.

All proceeds from the bazaar are given to the NEDH School of Nursing. Last year's receipts amounted to over $2,300.

Items to interest all holiday shoppers will be displayed at the December 4 bazaar. Friends of the Deaconess serving as chairmen are: Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., the Christmas table; Mrs. James T. Mountz, the household table; Mrs. Richard S. Paige, the children's table; Mrs. Jackson M. Norris, the flower table; and Mrs. Morris J. Nicholson, the food table. Miss Phyllis Giardini from the School of Nursing Alumnae Association is in charge of the candy table and Mrs. Maxwell Brockmann from the School of Nursing is chairman of the white elephant table.

All financial donations or items to be sold at the Christmas Bazaar may be sent to the volunteer office.

New Unit To Speed Cafeteria Service

There'll be some changes made in the NEDH cafeteria within the coming month. The renovations promise to provide a more efficient food-serving system, a more cheerful atmosphere and a larger seating capacity for Deaconess employees.

A satellite serving unit will be added to the dining room in order to alleviate a wait in line for those people who don't want a full meal. The new unit will be located in front of the present serving unit. It will contain sandwiches, soup, salads, desserts, coffee, milk and fruit drinks. In order to help employees utilize the cafeteria to its best advantage, a dietary supervisor will be in the cafeteria for a week to answer questions and assist in the change over to the modified shopping-type of food service.

The installation of an apple green tile floor will be one of the first renovations. In addition, the ceiling and walls will be repainted and new curtains hung at all windows. Dividers, complete with plants, will be installed to help separate the serving lines and tray-conveyor belt from the dining area.

Chairs and tables in a variety of bright colors will be one of the final additions to the cafeteria. They will be color coded and arranged in a structured manner to make the best use of the available dining space. The seating capacity of the cafeteria will jump from 248 to over 300.

Part of the expense for the renovations in the cafeteria will be absorbed by a fund established by a Boston businessman, Mr. Austen Madeson. Last February, Mr. Madeson, who was never a patient but several times a visitor at the Deaconess, donated stock valued at approximately $6,500 to the hospital. He stipulated that the money be used for the maximum employee benefit. A committee of employees and representatives from the administration decided that the money should be used for the cafeteria facelifting.

JUST A THOUGHT:
"The true test of intelligence is not how much we know how to do, but how we behave when we don't know what to do."
John Holt

PROFILE: Mr. George Muncey

Mr. George V. Muncey, supervisor of the respiratory therapy department, explains one of many pieces of equipment used in his field.

Mr. George V. Muncey, supervisor of the respiratory therapy department, is not the type of person who waits for "opportunity to knock at the door." He pursues it.

Born in the county of Surrey, England, Mr. Muncey has always been interested in medicine, but didn't quite know where to concentrate his talents. He studied nursing for two years only to change his mind about entering the profession.

By December 1964, when Mr. Muncey began working at the Deaconess, he had found his profession in respiratory therapy. He joined NEDH as a practicing staff therapist. Two years later he was promoted to the position he still holds: supervisor of the respiratory therapy department. In addition to his administrative and supervisory responsibilities, Mr. Muncey is in charge of testing and evaluating all of the new equipment and modes of therapy that come to the department.

He explains that, "The Deaconess is very active in evaluating most new equipment in this field. Companies come to us with their new equipment for evaluation — we don't go to them."

Mr. Muncey also supervises the respiratory therapy training program at the Deaconess. He is directly responsible for teaching students the therapeutic application of equipment and also the academic material, such as: anatomy, physiology and physics. There are six teachers who instruct students in clinical respiratory therapy procedures.

In 1944, after deciding against a nursing career, Mr. Muncey entered England's Royal Army Medical Corp. The next year, while training near Cambridge, he married Jean Prewer.

The Royal Army promptly separated the newlyweds when it ordered Mr. Muncey to report for duty in the Middle East. He served in countries, such as: Iraq, Iran, Egypt and Palestine — the names may have changed, but the area remains the same. During the time he was in Egypt, Mr. Muncey studied anatomy, physiology and other related sciences at the Middle East Land Forces College, Fanara.

When he was discharged in 1948, Mr. Muncey went to work in the emergency room at Cambridge Hospital. After transferring to Addenbrooks Hospital, a neurologic institute, he started learning about and becoming interested in respiratory therapy.

Mr. Muncey gradually began to feel stifled in his work. In 1957, he and his family left England to settle in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada, where Mr. Muncey thought the educational opportunities for himself and his family would be better. Mr. Muncey began working at Plummer Memorial Public Hospital as the supervisor of the surgical and medical orderlies.

"Dr. A. A. Scott, chief of anesthesia at Plummer, motivated me to study respiratory therapy. I attended and graduated from the School of Respiratory Therapy at Toronto Sick Children's Hospital," he recalls.

After completing the two-year program, Mr. Muncey opened the first respiratory therapy department at Plummer. Since he was the only person in the department, Mr. Muncey selected and purchased all of the new equipment. He also organized a training program for respiratory therapy technicians at Plummer. He did this by selecting the more interested and motivated orderlies and teaching them inhalation therapy procedures.

Shortly after his first group of therapists completed their training at Plummer, Mr. Muncey decided that the educational and financial opportunities were better in the United States. "I drafted a letter and sent 64 copies to hospitals in states such as: Arizona, Florida, Washington, Ohio, Massachusetts, California and Washington, D. C. I had no specific area in which I was particularly interested," comments Mr. Muncey.

He sent applications to three Boston hospitals, but it wasn't until after he received a letter confirming a job at another Boston hospital, that Mr. Muncey decided to write to the Deaconess. He had seen a Deaconess employment advertisement in a nursing journal and wrote for an interview.

Mr. Muncey expains that, "I merely wanted a point of comparison for the job I'd been offered at the other hospital.

"When I arrived in Boston, I had two scheduled interviews. One was at the Deaconesss. The cab driver noticed my accent, asked me where I was from and what I was doing in Boston. When I told him about my two interviews, he suggested that I go straight to the Deaconess.

"I have a lot of confidence in cab drivers because they generally have an insight about what is happening in their city. So, I came straight to the Deaconess for my interview . . . never bothered to go to the other hospital . . . just called them and cancelled my appointment after my interview here."

He then exclaims, "It was definitely the cab driver who swayed me. I'm glad he did!"

Dr. Joseph P. Crehan, anesthesia specialist at the Deaconess, encouraged Mr. Muncey to seek further education and obtain his American respiratory therapy registration. He became registered in the U. S. in 1966 — two years after he obtained his Canadian registration. Mr. Muncey is a member of the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists and is past secretary of the American Association of Inhalation Therapists.

Last April, Mr. Muncey received a master's certificate in supervisory development from the Institute of Managerial Education. He attended courses at night for two years to earn the certificate. NEDH paid for the cost of this phase of his education.

Not all of the Muncey children accompanied their parents to Boston in 1964. Derek, now 22, remained in Canada. Their two other children live with their parents in Bellingham, Mass. Anthony, age 20, is a junior at the University of Massachusetts and Christine, age 18, works during the day and is in the evening program at Framingham State College.

Travel is a pleasurable pastime for the entire Muncey family. They returned to England for a three-month visit in 1963. Now, with one son still in Canada, they visit our northern neighbor and travel throughout the New England states.

The whole Muncey family enjoys camping and spending weekends at their newly-purchased cottage in Whitefield, N. H. Mr. Muncey, who is interested in carpentry work, made the tables for their new cottage, built cupboards, panelled the walls and converted the attic into two bedrooms.

When he's not remodeling his cottage, Mr. Muncey likes to relax by a freshwater stream and try his hand at spin-cast fishing. He usually comes home with trout or bass. After winter sets in, the Munceys plan to continue their weekend trips to the cottage.

Dr. Pierce Appointed As Head Of New Post

Dr. Ellison C. Pierce Jr., anesthesiologist, was appointed coordinator of professional care in the recovery room. The position was established because of the need to have a physician responsible for professional aspects of the recovery room. Dr. Pierce's appointment became effective on September 1.

As coordinator of professional care in the recovery room, Dr. Pierce is responsible for: maintaining a lecture and bedside training program for recovery room personnel, dealing with patient-care procedures and providing medical advice whenever necessary.

A 1949 graduate from the University of Virginia, Dr. Pierce received his degree in medicine from Duke University Medical School in 1953. After serving as captain in the medical corps at the U. S. Air Force Hospital, Westover, Mass., he completed his residency requirements. Before coming to Boston in 1960, he taught anesthesia and pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Dr. Pierce practiced anesthesia and respiratory therapy at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, was a clinical associate in anesthesia at Harvard Medical School, and served the Veteran's Administration Hospital as attending anesthesiologist before joining the Deaconess in 1968.

Dr. Ellison C. Pierce, Jr.

Dr. Pierce is a member of several professional organizations, including: the American Medical Association, Massachusetts Medical Society, American Society of Anesthesiologists and the New England Society of Anesthesiologists. He is secretary of the Massachusetts Society of Anesthesiologists.

Dr. Pierce and his wife, Elizabeth, live in Dover with their two children: Chipper, 5; and Cynthia, 1½.

NEDH Freshmen Receive Caps

The traditional Candlelighting Ceremony for freshmen student nurses was held at 8 p.m., October 23 in the Joslin Auditorium. At the ceremony, attended by friends and parents of the girls, Miss Ellen D. Howland, director of nursing, gave the NEDH nursing cap to each freshmen. It was the first time that members of the class of 1973 wore their full uniform.

Mr. Richard Lee, director of NEDH, extended greetings in behalf of the hospital to parents and freshmen. Chaplain Ralph Curtis complemented the significant occasion when he gave the invocation.

Candlelighting concluded when the newly-capped freshmen filed from the auditorium singing, "Follow the Gleam," a traditional song used for the occasion.

Another School of Nursing event that is a tradition at the Deaconess, the Glee Club Christmas Concert, is scheduled for December 9. All employees are invited to attend the 8 p.m. concert in Joslin Auditorium.

Pre-Christmas Tea

Co-managers of the NEDH Gift Shop, Mrs. Mercedes Volek and Mr. Bert Castles, admire one of many gift novelties at the shop. Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., president of the Friends of the Deaconess, looks on approvingly.

On Tuesday, November 17, the Deaconess Gift Shop officially opened at its new location off of Central lobby. A new line of Christmas decorations and gifts were displayed at the pre-holiday affair.

At the opening of the NEDH Gift Shop, officers and members of the Friends Board of Directors served tea from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Visitors browsed through the large assortment of items shelved in the facility. Attending the tea were members of the NEDH family, employees of area hospitals and interested individuals from the community.

In anticipation of an increased income from the renovated Gift Shop, the Friends of the Deaconess voted at a June meeting to give a sum of $100,000 to the hospital. The amount will be paid over a period of three to five years.

Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., president of the Friends, made the announcement at a meeting of the Deaconess Corporation on November 17. She said that the pledge was a token of appreciation "for the opportunity to expand our services to the entire hospital family." The Friends of the Deaconess stipulated that the money be used for a new radiation therapy unit.

Mrs. Mercedes Volek and Mr. Bert Castles are co-managers of the Deaconess Gift Shop. Hours are from 9:00-4:30, Monday through Friday. Weekend hours have not been permanently established.

The expanded stock at the new facility includes: china, cookware, woodware, cards, toys, glassware and toiletries. Special holiday items, such as the current Christmas line, will be displayed at the appropriate times.

The Friends of the Deaconess held their annual meeting at 2:45 in Joslin Auditorium on November 17. Their financial reports were impressive. The Thrift and Coffee Shops both reported a profit increase of over $3,000 for 1969-1970. At last year's Christmas bazaar, the Friends earned over $2,300. The money from the bazaar was given to the Deaconess School of Nursing Scholarship Fund.

Current officers of the Friends of the Deaconess are: Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., president; Mrs. Alexander Marble, recording secretary; Mrs. Vernon S. Dick, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Shields Warren, treasurer; and Mrs. S. St. John Morgan, assistant treasurer.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Friends of the Deaconess may inquire at the volunteer office. A special invitation to join the organization is not necessary.

Mrs. Irma Kellner, director of volunteer services, accepts a cup of tea from Mrs. C. Cabell Bailey, member of the Friends of the Deaconess Board of Directors.

Salutes New Gift Shop

Miss Dorothy B. Seccomb and Mrs. George Dempsey, members of the Friends Board of Directors, watch Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., president of the Friends, light the candelabra at the Christmas Tea.

Miss Ellen Adams, assistant director, admires one of the Christmas ornaments displayed at the Gift Shop tea.

Mrs. Harry L. Jones, member of the Friends Board of Directors, serves coffee to (l. to r.) Mr. Lauriston Ward Jr. and Mr. Edgar Grossman, NEDH Corporators.

Bricklayers finish closing the opening between the Deaconess and Central buildings.

Progress Noted At Construction Sites

If everything goes according to schedule, the systems and planning department will move into their new office space on the Deaconess roof in mid-December. The exterior walls were completed in late October and windows were installed to make the enclosure of the roof complete. Interior partitions for individual offices and storage closets are now in their final stages of construction.

The old switchboard room on Deaconess 1 has been subdivided to accommodate two departments; security and personnel. In early November, the records and benefits section of the personnel department moved into half of the room. Their cooperation and patience during the remodeling of the room is commendable. When the partition and renovations are completed, Mr. Francis Tenore, newly-appointed head of security, will move into his new office.

In the anteroom off of Central lobby, the new pay telephone stations are now operating. The stations that were formerly next to the information desk have been removed. The area that they occupied will be remodeled and used as a storage closet for wheel chairs and some disaster supplies. The closet will also contain an alarm directory that will enable the Boston Fire Department to pinpoint the location of any fire in the multi-story Central building.

Iron workers are in the process of dismantling the construction elevator on the north side of the Deaconess building. The elevator is being removed so that the north section of the upper floors can be completed. Construction personnel are now using one of the elevators in the Central building to transport their equipment and personnel.

A large crane with a 240 foot boom helped remove the cab from the construction elevator the last week in October. However, the crane's primary purpose for being at the construction site was to lift the surgery cooling tower from its temporary location behind the Arthur T. Dooley Chapel to its permanent location on the mechanical penthouse roof.

Floor painters, wall coverers and electricians are aiming for mid-January as a completion date for the tenth and eleventh floors of the new addition. These will be the first floors of the addition to open for patient care. Bed capacity for the two floors is 63.

The extension of the Central building laundry chute is nearly complete. Personnel in dietary, the cashiers office, diagnostic x-ray and the nursing unit on Central 3 deserve a special thanks for their cooperation in this endeavor.

Scaffolding has been removed from the closed-in section between the Deaconess and Central buildings.

Family Raises Money To Support Laboratory

Laboratory facilities to support research of the causes and control of Hodgkin's Disease were dedicated at a tea on Sunday, November 8. Over 65 people attended the 2:00 p.m. dedication ceremony at the Riverway Restaurant.

The research facilities are named after Mrs. Roberta Alpert Bernstein who died of Hodgkin's Disease at the age of 23. Since her death in 1969, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julius H. Alpert of Chelsea, have raised several thousand dollars to help support research on the sixth floor of 110 Francis Street.

Mr. Alpert presented a commemorative plaque to Dr. James L. Tullis, chairman of the department of medicine; Dr. John Hinman, associate staff of the department of medicine; and Mr. R. D. Lowry, executive vice president. Tours of the laboratories were conducted by members of the research team following the dedication tea.

Mr. R. D. Lowry, executive vice president; Mr. Julius Alpert, father of Mrs. Roberta Alpert Bernstein; Dr. James L. Tullis, chairman of the department of medicine; and Dr. John Hinman, associate staff, discuss the support of the newly-dedicated laboratory facilities.

All of Mr. and Mrs. Alpert's friends and relatives, who attended the Sunday tea, gave financial support to the Roberta Alpert Bernstein Hodgkin's Fund. Donations can still be given to help support the research facility.

Excluding accidental or violent death, Hodgkin's Disease is the leading cause of death among men between the ages of 15 and 35. It is the third leading cause of death for young women of the same age range.

Mrs. Goodridge Greeted By Friends At Tea

Mrs. Helen Goodridge, medical secretary in anatomic pathology, was given a hat decorated with green bills from her friends at a retirement party on October 21. Mr. Richard Lee, director of NEDH, gave her a pearl necklace in behalf of the hospital.

During her 21 years of service to the hospital, Mrs. Goodridge worked under Dr. Shields Warren, past chairman of pathology, and Dr. William A. Meissner, current chairman. A hard worker, Mrs. Goodridge was responsible for many of the pathology reports on surgical specimens.

Music is her favorite pastime. Primarily interested in the organ, she studied the instrument under the late John Hermann Loud at Park Street Church, Boston. At one time, she served as an organist at Trinity Baptist Church, Brockton. Mrs. Goodridge is well read, especially in the areas of poetry and novels.

Her late husband, Maynard, worked in the maintenance and engineering department for many years. They lived in Needham. Mrs. Goodridge recently moved to Brockton where she lives with her sister.

Mrs. Helen Goodridge, far right, shows her new hat to: (l. to r.) Mrs Katherine Haley, CRI photography; Miss Rusty Chute, CRI research; Mrs. Eleanor Clapp, administrative secretary to Mr. R. D. Lowry; and Miss Ethel O'Brien, administrative secretary to Dr. William A. Meissner.

Law Changes Record Retention Requirement

Fall is a traditional time for bonfires, but laws now prohibit them. However, this didn't stop the Deaconess Medical Record Department from burning 16 years of patient records. On a typical fall day, October 14, the department remained within the legal limits of the state when it destroyed the medical records in an enormous fire.

From 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., men from the moving company, C. Bain, Inc., loaded crates of old records from the basement of the barn owned by NEDH at 229 Kent Street into a moving van. In the late afternoon, the van began its journey to Somerville where medical records dating from 1923 through 1939 were soon consumed by flames at the town's incinerator. In addition to the records taken from the barn's basement, 121 cartons of records previously stored at Bain's warehouse were also destroyed.

Not all records taken from the Kent Street barn ended up at the incinerator. Some more recent ones were placed in storage at Bain's. Volumes of records from 1911 through 1922 remain in storage at the barn. Miss Louise Seymour, director of the medical record department, and Miss Kathleen McTighe, medical record technician, supervised the loading of records from the Kent Street barn to the moving van.

According to Miss Seymour, "The records have served patients and researchers well, but have outlived their usefulness. I've been looking forward to this 'bonfire' for almost 15 years!"

Every doctor on the NEDH staff was notified that the medical records were to be destroyed. They were given the opportunity to request the preservation of particularly interesting records.

Miss Louise Seymour, director of the medical record department, scans patient files before sending them to the incinerator.

Pathology: A Multi-Faceted Field of Medicine

The Deaconess Pathology Department is a vital participant in the accurate care of patients. Divided into clinical and anatomic branches, the pathology department is located in the Palmer building. Its laboratories serve the Deaconess Hospital, Baptist Hospital, Lahey Clinic and the doctors at 110 Francis Street.

Dr. William A. Meissner, chief pathologist, is assisted by six other physicians. Dr. Merle A. Legg, Dr. Janet D. Lapey and Dr. Joseph C. Parker, Jr. all work exclusively in anatomic pathology. Dr. Raymond F. Maguire, Dr. Randi Rosvoll and Dr. David Skinner work in the clinical and anatomic divisions.

Anatomic pathology; the study of changes in diseases that occur in tissues and cells; is divided into cytology, surgical and autopsy pathology. Doctors in the anatomic branch are responsible for: examining microscopic slides from gross surgical specimens; making a diagnosis from the slides; performing frozen sections, biopsies and paraffin sections; conferring with physicians; and performing all autopsies.

Miss Deborah Williams, histology technician, slices a paraffin block for a microscopic tissue sample.

Surgical pathology is the primary emphasis in this part of the anatomic pathology series. Its specific function; the study of tissues removed by surgical procedures; is closely related to many facets of research. Cytology and autopsy pathology are not being neglected, but will be dealt with in the next issue of **Pulse.**

Many inflammatory diseases are treated surgically and it is important to know the amount of surgery that is necessary. The pathologist may be asked by the surgeon to identify the specific inflammatory disease or the extent of its progress so that surgery can be modified accordingly.

Frozen section procedures are frequently used in cases of cancer. For instance with a suspected breast cancer, the nodule is removed and given to the pathologist for examination. While the patient remains in the operating room, the nodule is frozen with liquid carbon dioxide or in a chamber set at minus 20 degrees centigrade. It is then sliced, placed on a slide, stained and examined. If the tissue is malignant, further surgery will be necessary. A frozen section takes only a few minutes and is used when an immediate diagnosis is required.

In the case of a stomach cancer, a frozen section may be done on tissues adjacent to the excised tumor. If cancerous cells are found by the pathologist, the surgeon must remove more of the surrounding tissues.

Biopsies are performed on pieces of tissue taken from a tumor to diagnose a cancer or to find out how far the cancer has spread. If a surgeon thinks the tumor can't be removed because it exists in an inoperable place, he must be sure that it is cancer and know what type of cancer it is. This information is needed so that the cancer can be appropriately treated by other means. An inoperable area would be an extensive involvement of the peritoneal lining.

If there is no immediate need for a diagnosis, then a frozen section is not performed. Instead, a paraffin section, which takes about 18 hours, is done on tissues removed from critical areas. For example, in a colon cancer, the whole segment of removed colon is sent to the pathology laboratory for examination. The tumor is placed in a preservative solution after the lymph nodes and some samples of the tumor are removed. These tissues are then run through a sequence of fluids and mounted in blocks of paraffin. Technicians slice the block until they have a sliver of tissue between six and ten microns thick (1/2500 of an inch).

After being stained and permanently mounted on slides, the tissues are studied by pathologists and pathology residents. The pathologists make a final diagnosis of the basic disease process and indicate the limits of its progress. The gross description and diagnosis are returned to the patient's chart and to the surgeon.

The Deaconess Pathology Department is involved in many aspects of research. Cancers are one kind of disease studied in the laboratories. The disease spreads in two ways: by extending out in fingers or by metastasizing discontinuously through the blood and lymphatic systems. The second method of growth is more dangerous because it is often impossible to remove the entire disease. If a metastasizing cancer is caught before it gets beyond the lymph nodes, it is more possible to control.

Dr. William A. Meissner, chief pathologist, discusses slides of the previous day's surgical specimens with six anatomic residents.

The pathology department must determine what kind of cancer is present, where it is, how it is growing and what stage of development it has reached. All of this information is necessary to help the attending physician determine the best means of treatment for his patient.

In addition to cancer and some inflammatory diseases, research is also done with diabetes. After a person contracts diabetes, changes occur in areas such as: the pancreas, eyes, kidneys, vascular and nervous systems. These changes are carefully investigated.

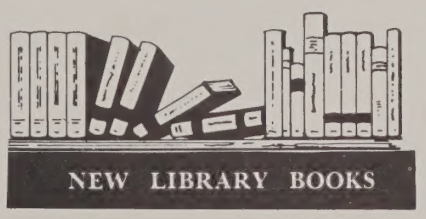
In addition to the pathologists, several specialized professions are associated with surgical pathology. Every year the Deaconess trains six to eight anatomic pathology residents. These individuals have finished their internship and completed one to four years of pathological training. Their work is closely supervised by the pathologists. After they complete their five years of specialized training, they are eligible for certification by the American Board of Pathology.

Histology technicians make and stain the paraffin slides for the pathologists. After an individual completes his academic education — a minimum of a high school degree is required — he must complete one year of training in histology. In order to become a registered histologist, he must pass the national registration examination. Laboratory aides file slides, help file specimens and clean all of the glassware.

Without highly qualified secretarial help to transmit information, the work done in surgical pathology would be lost. Secretaries type and code all diagnosis, transcribe dictation and maintain accurate records of all findings and procedures.

Surgical pathology is a highly specialized division of the entire pathology spectrum. Routine investigations, long-range research programs, qualified personnel and extensive laboratory facilities help to make the Deaconess Pathology Department a respected segment of the hospital and community.

(Next issue: cytology and autopsy pathology.)



FICTION

A Relative Stranger
Anne Stevenson. A young artist in London finds herself caught up in international intrigue.

The Child From the Sea
Elizabeth Goudge. The biography of Lucy Walter, mistress of Charles II and mother of the Duke of Monmouth.

Chocolate Days, Popsicle Weeks
Edward Hannibal. The story of an Irish Bostonian on Madison Avenue and the breaking and making of his marriage.

The Embroidered Sunset
Joan Aiken. (Mystery)

Heiress Apparent
Laura Conway. A gothic romance with all the right ingredients: an old house, weird relations, family secrets from the past.

The House of the Cat
Alexander Roudybush. (Mystery)

Last Things
C. P. Snow. The last of a ten-novel sequence; here the theme is the conflict between generations.

NONFICTION

American Negro Slavery
Allen Weinstein. Essays analyzing the social issues involved in the origins of slavery.

Annaghkeen
Deborah Love. The author's journal of a summer spent on an island in Ireland.

Aphrodite: Desperate Mission
Jack Olsen. First detailed story of the World War II bombing mission that took the life of Joseph Kennedy, Jr.

Divine Disobedience
Francine du Plessix Gray. An account of Catholic revolutionaries working for radical change throughout the world.

From the Heart
Elena Fried Guinsburg. Prayers, praises and poems of Jewish ideals and aspirations.

Message From Moscow
An Observer. An inside appraisal of daily life in the Soviet Union.

Since Silent Spring
Frank Graham, Jr. A new look at pesticidal pollution from the perspective of Rachel Carson's first warning nine years ago.

Zelda
Nancy Milford. The biography of the wife of F. Scott Fitzgerald.

JUST A THOUGHT:

"Life is a wave, which in no two consecutive moments of existance is composed of the same particles."

John Tyndall

* * *

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

H. David Thoreau

New Look Is Coming

Students in the School of Nursing will be wearing new uniforms in the near future. A student-faculty committee narrowed the choice to three styles: two have detachable white aprons pieces and one has a white bodice panel. All of the uniforms are blue and have short sleeves.

The style choice is being considered because of current trends in design and the difficulty in purchasing the material. Laundering is another determining consideration since many laundries are shifting their equipment to handle drip-dry fabrics. All of the new styles are made of this material.

Student nurses model uniforms to show the change in styles. (l. to r.) Miss Jane Ashley, '71, models one of the new style choices; Miss Gretchen Holmes, '72, one of the earliest styles; Miss Brenda Kelsey, '71, one of the new choices; Miss Nancy Rettig, '73, the current uniform; and Miss Barbara Falkowski, '71, one of the style choices for the new uniform.

Personnel Announces Revisions

Changes in personnel department assignments were made by Mr. Francis Matthews, director of employee relations, in early November. Miss Elizabeth Murphy was promoted to supervisor of employee benefits and records and Mr. Russell Jenks, who completed a special assignment with Jobs '70, returned to his position as supervisor of employment.

Miss Murphy is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the hospital employee's benefits, such as: master medical, life insurance and retirement programs. She is also in charge of maintaining employee records and processing all additions, deletions and status changes on the hospital's personnel and payroll records. Her new extension number is 2077. She is assisted by Miss Terry Fitzpatrick, records, and Miss Polly Haines, benefits. They may be contacted at extension 2078.

Employment Supervisor Russell Jenks is assisted by Mr. Donald Buch, Miss Marian Denner and Mr. Paul Torres. Mr. Buch is now specializing in professional-technical recruitment, Miss Denner in secretarial recruitment and Mr. Torres in service and clerical recruitment. The new extension numbers for the employment section of personnel are: Mr. Jenks, extension 2071; Mr. Buch, 2072; Miss Denner, 2074; and Mr. Torres, 2073.

The changes in the personnel department were prompted by the availability of more office space in Deaconess 1. In early November, Miss Murphy and her assistants moved into the room previously occupied by the switchboard. Miss Denise Pagliaro, job analyst, is also located in the remodeled area. Her extension number is 2079.

Mrs. Linda Cain, receptionist, is still assigned to employment services. Mr. Michael Sweetser, recently-appointed nurse recruiter, and Miss Isabella Nutter, assistant nurse recruiter, are still located on Baker 2.

NEDH Attends LPN Convention

The 21st Annual Convention of the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses was held October 11-16 at the Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston. As part of the convention, 35 medical and commercial exhibitors opened booths on October 14-16.

Representing the Deaconess Hospital were: Mr. Michael Sweetser, nurse recruiter; Miss Isabella Nutter, assistant nurse recruiter; and Miss Kathleen Harvey, L.P.N. on Central 3. About 800 L.P.N. delegates from almost every state visited the NEDH booth. One L.P.N. came from Germany.

Brochures containing literature about the Deaconess as an institution and as an opportunity center for nurses were given to all L.P.N.'s. In addition, buttons proclaiming the Deaconess as "The Medi-hub of the Universe" were distributed. Fresh cider and cinnamon sticks were served, compliments of the Deaconess.

It is difficult to measure the success of a convention or career day in terms of direct results. Often nurses come to the Deaconess seeking employment because they have learned about the hospital from friends or colleagues who met a Deaconess recruiter at either a convention or at the hospital.

New England Deaconess Hospital
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pulse

The New England Deaconess Hospital Complex, including the Medical Office Building at One Ten Francis Street, Lahey and Overholt Thoracic Clinics, the Joslin Diabetes Foundation, Inc., the Cancer Research Institute and the Shields Warren Radiation Laboratory, is internationally known for diagnosis, treatment and research in general medicine, brain and chest surgery, cancer and diabetes.

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GIFT SHOP OPENING: See page 3.

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